charge of the Medical Department. She was also appointed an official member of the Legislative Council. During the last four years, the total number of in-patients and out-patients treated in the several departmental hospitals and dispensaries together has risen from 8·61 lakhs to 9·91 lakhs, of major and minor operations from 37,456 to 45,554, and of labour cases from 3,967 to 6,666. These are evidences of the growing popularity of the department and of its increasing usefulness to the public at large. The Department of Bacteriology and Pathology, created in 1097, continues to do good work; and during the latter half of 1099, provision for anti-rabic treatment was newly made and the treatment entrusted to the State Bacteriologist. It is proposed shortly to construct a building in the General Hospital premises with eight beds for patients suffering from *rabies*. Mr. J. Alexander, the officer in charge of the investigation of special diseases, whose latest investigation related to yaws in the Mallappalli and Mavelikara areas, has almost completed that work and a detailed report from him on the subject is awaited by the Darbar Physician. A second batch of fifteen nursing pupils are now being trained in the Women and Children's Hospital. A qualified medical graduate has proceeded to England for training in x-ray and electro-therapeutics, and on his return the x-ray department of the General Hospital will be re-organised and placed under his charge. In the Women and Children's Hospital, the number of in-patients has risen from 2,271 to 3,592, and of out-patients from 21,029 to 27,165, during the past four years. The Ophthalmic Hospital has also shown a progressive record of public usefulness during this period, the number of in-patients rising from 606 to 979 and of operations from 452 to 828. In the Hospital for Lepers, the systematic treatment of leprosy by the latest method of injecting preparations of the *chaulmugra* oil has been adopted, and a Sub-Assistant Surgeon, who has had his training under Dr. Muir, Specialist in leprosy and Professor in the School of Tropical Diseases, Calcutta, is applying this method of treatment. Mrs. Lukose reports that the treatment is becoming increasingly popular among the inmates of the hospital. The Government have also sanctioned a sum of Rs. 1,000 for the dispensary treatment of leprosy which is reported to be widely prevalent in Karungapalli and adjacent areas. The proposal to open a midwifery class in the Women and Children's Hospital for the benefit of women volunteering to undergo a course of training in that institution, referred to in paragraph 46 of my address last year, has been sanctioned, and the class will soon be started. A medical inspection of pupils studying in English schools was carried out for the first time in 1099. The pupils of the Preparatory Class, Form III and Form VI of all departmental English schools for boys, except the Model School attached to the Training College, were examined. Nine private English high schools and two private English middle schools also participated in the scheme. 5,849 pupils were on the whole examined, the cost to the Government on this account amounting to Rs. 2,784. Mrs. Lukose states that, when the reports of the several medical officers engaged in this inspection are received, a study will be made, with the data available, of the causation of the diseases common among school children and the necessary remedial measures suggested.

51. Ayurveda Department. As indicated in paragraph 47 of my address last year, the sale of medicines to the public from the Ayurveda Pharmacy has been discontinued with effect from the beginning of the current year, and that institution is now exclusively treated as an adjunct to the Ayurveda Hospital, the needs of which it subserves. In pursuance of the scheme introduced in 1098 for the gradual increase of grant-in-aid *Vaidyasalas* until their number reaches 120, so that there may be twelve *Vaidyans* for urban areas and one each for every four rural *pakuthies* of the State, ten more *Vaidyasalas* were added in 1099, raising the total number of grant-in-aid *Vaidyans* to 92. The number of patients treated in the grant-in-aid *Vaidyasalas* has risen from 1,60,034 to 2,23,861 or by nearly 40 per cent. within the last four years. The Ayurveda College, organised as such in 1096, has also been gaining in strength, the number of students rising from 105 in 1096 to 142, with 18 girl pupils, in 1099. The work of publishing rare manuscripts on Ayurveda has been transferred to the Director of Ayurveda and his proposals for the staff to be employed in that work are under examination.

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